



FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Firefighters Mark Hughes and Anders Seeland
Wayzata Volunteer Fire Department

Wayzata, MN

APPLICATION:

House fire.

SUMMARY:

The Wayzata, Minnesota Fire Department responds to a residential fire to find the east side of the home fully engulfed, with flames coming out of the first floor and rising up and past the roof. Before support vehicles arrive and set up to assist, Engine 11 – containing TetraKO water enhancer – is able to knockdown and suppress the exterior flames, protect the garage exterior, and quickly extinguish the living room fire. A second crew uses TetraKO to attack and extinguishes the attic fire. The entire fire operation is completed in just two hours.



FIRE INCIDENT REPORT #14:

Mark Hughes, has been a volunteer with the Wayzata Fire Department for close to 20 years, and shares what happened: “We pulled up in front of the house and the east side was completely involved in flames coming from the first floor and climbing up the side, past the roofline. The garage had burning embers falling on its roof and the siding of the wall closest to the house was catching on fire.”

“I was on the nozzle with two other firefighters and once we had the attack line charged, I opened the nozzle and flowed TetraKO up the side of the house and knocked the fire down almost immediately. Then, I swung over to the garage and gave it a coating and knocked down all the embers that had blown onto the roof.”

“We proceeded up the driveway and inside the front door, and to the right of us was a living room area with a gas fireplace. (We found out later that that’s where the fire had originated.) The fireplace wall was completely involved in flames and we knocked it down in about 30 seconds. Next, we headed up the front stairway and when we got to the top landing, we couldn’t see anything because of the smoke and there was a lot of heat. I shot TetraKO into a couple of different bedrooms not knowing if there were flames in either one.”

A second crew from Wayzata arrived, including firefighter Anders Seeland, who describes his role, “The first crew had knocked down the fire on the inside and the outside of the structure. However, the fire had reached into the attic and was starting to burn through the roof. We sprayed the roof with TetraKO for about 10 seconds and all the flames we could see from the outside were gone.”

Later, we all agreed there was no way we could have knocked it down as quickly with regular water.”

Hughes concludes, “Our total time at the fire scene was just two hours and we were able to save that house. I figure we used 30–40 gallons total of TetraKO solution for the initial knockdown on the exterior fire, the garage and the living room wall fire. Once we put the fire out with TetraKO, it stayed out! I’ve used Class A foam for years, and TetraKO definitely knocks down a fire faster.”

—Mark Hughes and Anders Seeland,
Firefighters, Wayzata Volunteer Fire Department



The fire had reached the attic and flames were burning through the roof but in 10 seconds all the flames we could see were gone.